

U.S. Congressman Mike Pence, Chairman of the American Energy Solutions Group, released the following statement today about the CLEAR Act, House Democrats' new job-killing energy legislation:

**“Washington Democrats are exploiting the Gulf oil spill tragedy for their agenda of higher taxes and more spending. The bill will make us more dependent on foreign oil by imposing a new tax on each barrel of American oil. This \$22 billion energy tax will kill jobs by raising the price of energy for American families, small businesses, and family farms.**

**“The CLEAR Act will make Americans more dependent on foreign oil by creating a de facto moratorium on offshore oil and gas production. It also will devastate smaller and independent offshore energy companies, and the jobs they produce, by removing liability limits and imposing layers of new regulation and bureaucracy.**

**“House Republicans have been advocating for a thorough, independent investigation into the spill to yield common sense reforms that will increase the safety of energy exploration. But Democrats are rushing to use this crisis to raise taxes and add more than \$30 billion in new spending, at the expense of American jobs and energy security.”**